

THE CONSERVATIVE

PUBLISHED DAILY AND WEEKLY BY
JOHN B. NEATHERY, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

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TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS.

[OF THE SOUTHERN PRESS ASSOCIATION.]

Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1865, by
S. NEATHERY, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court
of the Confederate States of the Northern District of
Georgia.

From Charleston.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 19.
About midday all the vessels of the fleet raised
their flags and fired a salute. There has been an
unusual activity displayed amongst the fleet-to-day
and on Morris Island. The number of monitors
has been increased, there are now eight off Morris
Island.
Nothing of Sherman's movements.

Congressional.

RICHMOND, Jan. 19.
The Senate passed the House bill concerning the
Cherokee Indians and unanimously concurred in
the House resolution for an address to the peo-
ple of the Confederate States. After the executive
session adjourned.
In the House to-day, Mr. Marshall's resolution
relative to the cotton and tobacco was adopted—
yeas 43, nays 31.
The Senate's joint resolutions of thanks to Gen.
Sandwich, Col. G. and Gen. John S. Williams
and the officers of their respective commands, was
unanimously concurred in.
At the expiration of the morning hour Mr. Foster
rose to question of privilege and addressed the
House for upwards of two hours. At the close of
his remarks he asked leave of absence for two
months, but subsequently withdrew the applica-
tion.
Mr. Sneed submitted a preamble and resolution
declaring Mr. Foster unworthy to occupy a seat up-
on the floor of this House and he is hereby expelled.
Referred to the Committee on Elections—yeas 44,
nays 36.
Adjourned.

Richmond, Jan. 20.

The Senate passed the House bill to authorize
the establishment of an office of deposit in connec-
tion with the Treasury.
The consolidation bill was further discussed till
adjournment.
In the House J. M. Leach submitted a resolution
declaring no exigency, except for just fees the
suspension of the privilege of the writ of Habeas
Corpus which was rejected yeas 23 nays 43.
The Senate bill authorizing the reserve troops to
be removed from one state to another passed yeas
63 nays 16.
The exemption bill was further considered with-
out result.
The Examiner asserts that the Senate in secret
session adopted resolutions creating the office of
Commander-in-Chief of all the armies of the Con-
federacy and recommending the reinstatement of
Gen. Johnston by a vote of yeas 20, nays 2, and
that the House in secret session concurred in
said resolutions, yeas 62, nays 14.
The Examiner also says Hood has been relieved,
it is said at his own request. The army is believed
to be under the command of Dick Taylor.

Northern News.

RICHMOND, Jan. 19.
Northern papers of the 17th have been received.
A Washington telegram in the Philadelphia Ex-
aminer of the 18th says:
Mr. Blair called upon the President this evening
and spent several hours there. To gentlemen who ad-
dressed him upon the subject he remarked that he
had an interview with Jeff. Davis, what passed he
would not divulge to any one at present except the
President—that his expedition was highly satisfac-
tory and might be known in proper time.
Thomas was at Clinton, Wayne county last Sat-
urday.
The roads are in a very bad condition.
In the House of Representatives on Monday, Mr.
Cox offered a resolution in favor of the appoint-
ment of peace Commissioners. Laid on the table
yeas 74 nays 51.

Richmond, Jan. 20.

Northern papers of the 18th are chiefly filled
with official and unofficial reports of the capture
of Fort Fisher. A summary in the Baltimore
American says the fleet and army transports sailed
together from Beaufort and arrived at the scene of
operations on Friday. The troops were promptly
landed without opposition. On Friday and Satur-
day they were occupied in the bombardment of the
Fort—Navy fire being unprecedentedly heavy.
On Sunday an assault was made by the navy,
assisted by Porter, who had landed two thousand
seamen and marines, with orders to board the fort
on its sea face. The troops commanded by Terry
consisted of the sea division which participated in
Buller's flag attack, and an additional
brigade. The assault commenced at half past three
in the afternoon, and full possession of the works
was obtained at ten after a desperate, sanguinary
fight, federal loss heavy, especially in officers.
Gen. Curtis wounded. The garrison fell back to
the extreme Federal point, where they were cap-
tured. The American says we captured over
two thousand prisoners, including Gen. Whiting
and Col. Lamb, both wounded, and seventy-two
guns. The latest dispatches give the highest figures.
After the fort was occupied the magazine was ex-
plored by accident, killing 200 Yankees and
wounding a great many. The Yankee loss during
the fight was about nine hundred killed and wound-
ed—rebel loss about five hundred.

The following list comprises all the wounded

that have been received so far at General Hospital
No. 4:
Capt James S. Lane, Co D, 40th N C T, eyes,
slight.
Daniel Beadell, Co K, 42d N C T, mouth, dan-
gerously—Charlotte, N. C.
W. T. Thiburn, Co D, 68th N C, contusion of face
—Kinston, N. C.
W. H. Kennedy, Co H, 65th N C, contusion of hip
—Hallsville, N. C.
Elijah Walters, Co D, 68th N C, contusion—
Jacksonville, N. C.
W. A. Darrell, Co H, 27th Georgia, gunshot in
back, severely—McDonald, Geo.
John C. Smith, Co A, 27th Georgia, contusion shoul-
ders, severely—Tennell, Geo.
Andrew White, Co D, 27th Geo., shot through
head, severely—Gainsville, Geo.
Daniel E. Simms, Co H, 31st N C, finger—Fay-
etteville, N. C.
Josiah L. Watts, Co H, 5th N C, flesh wound
check—Mt. Pleasant, N. C.
Josiah Young, Co I, 5th N C, contusion right
hand—McRae's Store, N. C.
With the exception of Capt. Linn, the above
were all wounded in skirmishing in the neighbor-
hood of Sugar Loaf—W. J. Jour.

A country editor, putting a new store, says in

conclusion: We get a prime pair of boots for put-
ting this in—very honest.
Have you much fish in your bag? asked a per-
son of a fisherman. Yes, there is a good "Eel in't,"
was the rather slippery reply.

DAILY CONSERVATIVE.

Vol. I.] RALEIGH, N. C., SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1865. [No. 232.

From the Charlotte Bulletin.

Ma. Editor:—I have long thought that the beau-
tiful air of "Annie Laurie," which is sung and ad-
mired by everybody; ought to be recorded and trans-
ferred to sacred music. I have made a bungling ef-
fort, it is true, to do it. But the publication of
this may stimulate others to improve upon it.
Respectfully,
B. RIDLEY.

SUNG TO THE TUNE OF "ANNIE LAURIE."

I love the blessed Saviour,
Redeemer of the world,
Who died to save lost sinners;
Hallowed be his name—
Hallowed be his name—
Glorious Saviour—blessed Jesus,
Hallowed be thy name.

The world was full of sorrow,

And darkness ruled the land,
When Jesus came—the sunlight—
Dispelling all our gloom.
Jesus! Saviour!—thine Redeemer,
Hallowed be thy name.

How happy are the people,

Whose sovereign is the Lord!
Who hail him as their Saviour,
And praise his holy name—
And praise his holy name—
Precious Saviour, dear Redeemer,
Hallowed be thy name.

Oh Lord, we pray, preserve us;

Shield us from the doom
Of those who slight this Saviour,
And scorn his loving calls—
And scorn his loving calls—
Glorious Saviour! blessed Jesus!
Hallowed be thy name.

Oh! who can tell the glories,

Prepared by him above,
For those who love this Saviour,
With everlasting love—
With everlasting love—
Hail, Holy, Holy Jesus,
Hallowed be thy name.

How happy those abounding,

In faith and hope and love;
Who place their trust in Jesus,
To reign with him above—
To reign with him above—
Hail, Holy, Holy Jesus,
Hallowed be thy name.

The "SENTINEL" AND CONGRESS.—We give be-

low the communication and the editorial which
caused such a display of froth in the House of
Representatives on Monday last.
From the Sentinel.
Gentlemen:—It is rumored on the street that
there is a resolution, before Congress—in secret
session—to open irregular negotiations for peace.
This is not only treason, but under the circum-
stances, it is treachery of the most infamous char-
acter. If you please, let us know whether it be
true or not. The people of Virginia, certainly, and
I believe, the people of the Confederacy gener-
ally, will not allow themselves to be seduced by trea-
ditional Congressmen after this fashion.
Our correspondent, "Q" refers to a report which
is pretty common upon the street, and which has
excited so far as it has gained any credit, the ut-
most surprise and indignation among our people.
What the citizens of Virginia, at least, think of
such revolutionary notions are therein referred
to, may be seen in the noble action of our House of
Delegates on Tuesday last. Propositions not a whit
more dishonouring and fatal than those referred
to by "Q" were indefinitely postponed in the
promptest and most indignant manner, by a vote of
101 to 2. That vote spoke for Virginia in sub-
stance and in manner. We do not doubt that the
honour of the State is as truly represented in
Congress, and that no one of her delegates, at least,
could have a part in such exceedingly reprehensi-
ble and intolerable proceedings as are imagined.
If there be, indeed, a single member remaining
in Congress who is in favor of seeking peace by
the Occoquan road, instead of the regular author-
ized mode of negotiation which the Constitution
has provided, and which he has sworn to support,
he knows but little of the temper of the people, if
he supposes he would meet with the least encour-
agement or toleration or escape the least encour-
agement. The sentiment of Gov. Vance is the
sentiment of our whole people, and the sworn du-
ty of our legislators. "Let all our movements,
whether of peace or war, be in solid column." There
is neither dignity, honor, nor safety in any
other; nothing but folly, treason and ruin.

A TELEGRAPHIC TRICK.—The Wilmington Journal

obtains the following from a highly respectable
source:
"When the enemy had reached Wanesboro',
Ga., on the railroad between Millen and Augusta,
and had got possession of the telegraph office, they
immediately put an operator to work telegraphing
to Augusta as though from Gen. Wheeler. Our
operator at Augusta immediately suspected that
something was wrong; operators know each other's
touch, we suppose. He communicated his suspi-
cions, but answered the call of Wanesboro' as
though suspecting nothing. Some correspondence
ensued, in the course of which a dispatch was sent
to Augusta to Wheeler, (i. e. the Yankees at Wane-
sboro') to hold on for a day and General Grant
would come with ten thousand infantry and two
brigades of Hampton's cavalry. The enemy instead
of fooling anybody was fooled himself, and sver-
ed off from Augusta."

IMPORTANCE OF NEWSPAPERS.—People never esti-

mate the value of a thing until deprived of it. A
Savannah refugee writes to the Charleston Courier
an account of the siege and fall of his city, in which
he tells of "the dismal fears and forebodings during
the days when they had no newspapers. He never
knew the value of newspapers till then. So it will
be with our country, when these lights is wiped
out. How great will be the darkness. Far better
do without a Congress—by one act to authorize the
President to do any and everything which seems to
him best for our success, than to give up news-
papers. In the hands of Providence there is no strong-
er instrument used for the obtaining of our inde-
pendence than the Press. If Congress will just in-
quire of the people of Savannah, they will realize
the truth of this remark."

The Columbia Guardian says the delegation in

Congress from South Carolina waited in a body last
Monday, upon the President of the Confederate
States, and presented the request which had been
forwarded to them by Governor Mignath, to ap-
point Gen. J. E. Johnston to the command of the
troops in that department. The President declined
to make the appointment as desired. We have not
learned to whom he will tender the command.

MILITARY DIRECTORY.

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100	W. H. Webb,	W. H. Coates,	H. T. Gaiter,	Sparrow & Kelly,

CALENDAR FOR 1865.

1865.	Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
Jan.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Feb.	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Mar.	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Apr.	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
May.	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Jun.	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Jul.	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Aug.	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Sep.	26	27	28	29	30	1	2
Oct.	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Nov.	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Dec.	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1866.	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

D. C. MURRAY & CO.,

GENERAL AUCTION & COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

FAYETTEVILLE STREET, RALEIGH, N. C.

HAVING REGULARLY COMMENCED BUSINESS, SO-

licit consignments.

They will attend promptly to the purchase and sale of all

Goods, Stocks, &c., &c., at the lowest market prices.

By command of the Hon. House.

J. W. HINSDALE, A. A. General.

Dec. 2, 1864. 191—

FAYETTEVILLE NORTH CAROLINA

THE CONSERVATIVE

M. S. ROBINS, Editor.

ALL letters on business of the office to be directed to J. M. B. NEATHY & Co.

RALEIGH, N. C.: SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 21, 1865.

PRINTERS WANTED. Two or three good Compositors can find permanent employment and good wages by applying at this office. None but good hands need apply.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY. A bill to call a Convention of the people of North Carolina, and a series of resolutions, on the same subject were yesterday introduced in the House of Commons, the resolutions presented by Mr. Hanes being tabled by yeas 53, nays 39, and the bill being referred to the Judiciary Committee. Beyond this and the adoption of a resolution to secure market price for impressed property, brought forward in the Senate, but little of any importance was done. Two unsuccessful ballots were had for Engrossing Clerk.

Some people never learn anything, and never forget anything; as, for instance, the Bourbons and the high old "Conservatives" in this State, who, for once, did seem to cooperate with the Richmond clique in maligning Gen. Whiting, and demanding somebody else. They appear to have got their desires gratified. Gen. Whiting is wounded and a prisoner. Is Gov. Vance perfectly satisfied? He, we know, was one of the agents in overriding, superseding and trying to ruin Gen. Whiting. All right we suppose in a party point of view.

The above we clip from the Wilmington Journal. It is an extract from an ill-humored article on the fall of Fort Fisher. The Journal as might be expected, is in a bad temper at that untoward event, and like a wounded bear dashes around to hurt somebody. Its otherwise interesting columns are occasionally blurred by an article exhibiting the personal or political spleen of the editor, of which the article in question is a specimen. The fall of Fort Fisher is an event to be deplored. It not only disappoints public expectation, but has spread gloom over the State; yet the remedy is not to be found in personal or partisan crimination, but in the wisest and most vigorous efforts of the government and people.

This article of the Journal is evidently designed to attach blame to Gen. Bragg, to all who are suspected of being instrumental in his appointment to that command, and of course to everybody supposed to have complained months ago, of certain things in the private conduct of Gen. Whiting, with which rumor made the public acquainted. It also makes it the occasion to vent the personal and political spleen of the editor against Gov. Vance. The Carolinaian, we observe, exculpates Gen. Bragg entirely of all blame and puts it on the shoulders of another.

We take no part in fixing blame on any one, or in ferreting out the causes of the disaster, but leave that duty to be performed by those to whom it more properly belongs. It is far better that the people and the public journals should seek to repair the damage as soon as possible by preventing the further advance of the enemy.

But the following denunciation of Governor Vance does concern us, and demand a brisk and prompt notice, however unworthy the motive which prompted it, or the author of it may be.

The Journal says: "Is Gov. Vance satisfied? He, we know, was one of the agents in overriding, superseding and trying to ruin Gen. Whiting."

This harsh allegation against Gov. Vance, is barely false, and unwarranted by any truthful facts, in the possession of the Journal or anyone else. Of the high qualities of Gen. Whiting as an engineer, and his military skill, knowledge and ability, no one has been more ready or more frequent to acknowledge than Gov. Vance. His personal inspection of the fortifications around Wilmington had given Gov. Vance the highest opinion of Gen. Whiting's skill and military knowledge. Personally, so far as we know their relations had been entirely friendly and confidential. Of several of Gen. Whiting's official acts as commander of that Department Gov. Vance had cause to complain and did complain, but none of these had lessened his estimate of his ability or led him to demand his removal. He never asked for the appointment of Gen. Bragg. That officer was sent without his suggestion or request.

But the insolent and unprovoked attack of the Journal demands what we hoped would have been spared us. We heartily detest all public allusions to the private conduct of any one, much less a courageous and skillful officer. Yet in this case, however much we deprecate it, the Journal forces it upon us. The Journal must know that for months, if not years, Gen. Whiting's personal habits have lessened the public confidence in his ability, at all times, to exercise proper command, especially in an emergency. The Journal knows that his failure at Petersburg to execute an important order given by Gen. Beauregard, which proved to be disastrous to us, has been charged upon the peculiar condition Gen. Whiting was in at the time. Since that event, especially the public, though highly esteeming some of Gen. Whiting's qualities, have felt timid and fearful of him as the sole commander at Wilmington, in the event of a sudden and violent attack on that place. It is not probable that Gov. Vance could have been ignorant of this state of things, and of the public feeling in reference to it. The intensity of the feeling on this subject rose to such a height months ago, that Gov. Vance felt obliged, without in the least desiring to reflect

upon Gen. Whiting's skill, military knowledge, or courage, to ask the authorities to place Gen. Beauregard in chief command at Wilmington, whenever an attack was anticipated. Gen. Beauregard's success at Charleston, Gov. Vance knew would make him entirely acceptable to our people and Gen. Whiting himself, while at the same time he expressed no wish to have Gen. Whiting removed. This was done in September last. Gov. Vance has applied for the appointment of no one else to that post. Gen. Beauregard was sent, but afterwards removed to Georgia. He was succeeded by Gen. Bragg, without even a hint of such a wish from the Governor; and for any of his mistakes, if indeed, any were made by him, Gov. Vance is not responsible; and cannot be made so by the angry mood of the Journal.

THE CONFEDERATE, after showing the necessity of consolidating our regiments and companies, and feelingly portraying the evils of the same, calls on the "patriotism of the North Carolina Legislature" to "save the war-worn veterans from this galling necessity." The editor then discourses as follows:

"There is exempted material enough in North Carolina to keep every regiment, battalion, or company above the minimum mark." Let us examine this assertion by applying the test of common sense.

We suppose, of course, that by "exempted material," the Confederate means "such material" as is under the control of the Legislature of North Carolina, otherwise the eloquent appeal should be addressed to the Confederate Congress. It would be cruel to hold the Legislature responsible for the absence from service of those whose "bomb-proofs" are the gift of another and superior power, and we will not impute such folly to our neighbor.

The words "exempted material" must mean State officers, they alone being under the control of the General Assembly, and our neighbor therefore in effect asserts that there are enough State officers of conscript age in North Carolina capable of field duty to "keep every regiment, battalion, or company above the minimum mark." Is this correct or is it not? If true then the Confederate may take one short step towards raising in the minds of the soldiers a hostility to the representatives of our noble old State. If not correct, of course that paper will endeavor to relieve our common mother from the odium of the fallacious charge.

North Carolina has in the field 69 regiments and 11 battalions—say in all 74 regiments of 10 companies each, making seven hundred and forty companies in all.

By the official report of Col. Mallett, Commandant of Conscripts, the number of exempted State officers in North Carolina is 5,153. If by a marvellous freak of nature all these are able to do military service, they would afford about seven to each company in these North Carolina regiments. The Confederate therefore asserts that seven recruits to each company would keep every one above the minimum mark. Is this possible?

But even the fierce hostility of the Confederate against State officers will allow some exemptions—Our Governor, two or more of our Superior Court Judges and other necessary State officers are under conscript age. Take these away and the number of "exempted material" proper for field service, is considerably diminished.

Moreover of these 5,153 it is fair to presume that a large number would, if examined, be exempted by medical boards, as it is improbable they would have more health and strength than other classes of our people. How many would be left able to do field duty, we are not prepared to say, but we believe that the number would not exceed 4,000. Besides many of these State officers are entitled to exemption from other causes, some have over fifteen hands, and could be exempted as agriculturists, some are editors, some one thing and some another.

We believe we are not far wrong in saying that the most unrelenting conscription could not add five to a company.

Now, soldiers of North Carolina, is the Confederate right or wrong? If he is wrong we pray you not to pour out the vials of your wrath upon your own chosen representatives elected by yourselves with other citizens of your State.

But the Confederate goes further. He says there is enough "exempted material" to keep every regiment, &c., above the minimum mark. "Keep" means continuous action, so that our neighbor asserts that the five State officers would not only fill up their company, but good old North Carolina is able, as Fortunatus could from his magical purse to afford a perennial stream of athletic State officers which will "keep the regiments, &c., above the minimum mark."

Erroneous notions like the above have fearfully injured the good fame of North Carolina. The false report of the Conscription Bureau in Richmond might have been discredited by the prompt denials of Senator Graham, W. N. H. Smith and others, if newspapers in this State had not added the endorsement of their belief, and made it the foundation of charges against the Conservative party. Oh, that our people would all be, like Virginians are, slow in believing and prompt in denying ought to the injury of the reputation of North Carolina.

When all around is drear and dark, the hidden glories of heaven may be caught in a tear trembling upon the eyelid and shining beautifully up on the soul.

WE NOTICE that the Confederate of yesterday complains that we did that paper injustice in our issue of the preceding day, in that we charged it with not having noticed the late report of Col. Mallett respecting the number of exempted State officers. It is not our purpose to do that or any other journal any wrong. Our article of which the Confederate complains was penned and probably in type before his article noticing the report of Col. Mallett, met our eye. We now take pleasure in acknowledging the fact that it did notice the report in a very few lines. And we would respectfully suggest to our neighbor, that if he would now dwell on its vindication of our noble old State, at as much length as he did on the former reports injurious to her reputation, he would, in this, at least, show himself a noble son of our noble old mother.

ANOTHER PEACE EMBASSY.—General Singleton, of Illinois, is in Richmond. The Tribune says:

"We do not know how far he has transpired that Gen. Singleton, of Illinois, recently at Washington for Richmond on an errand of consultation; but a fact it undoubtedly is. Yet it is not pretended at least it cannot be with truth—that Gen. Singleton either does or will profess to represent, however informally, the President of the United States, or that his mission is other than purely self prompted. Gen. Singleton is a 'Peace Democrat'—he is opposed to what is termed 'Cession'—he enjoys the personal friendship and esteem of certain of the Confederate chiefs, who have the doubt of his hearty good will. But he is also sincerely desirous that the Union may speedily be restored both in spirit and letter; and he believes he can at Richmond facilitate that consummation."

We understand that Gen. Singleton denies that he comes on a "peace mission"; but that he comes for the purpose of visiting friends and relative in the Confederate States. Mr. Lincoln is setting very accommodating when he permits a "Peace Democrat" to pass through Grant's lines.—R. Sentinel.

WILMINGTON, CHARLOTTE & R. R. R.—Great credit is due to the railway authorities for the promptitude and efficiency displayed by them in meeting the extraordinary demand made by our people for transportation facilities. We mention the Wilmington and Rutherford railroad because it is less known, and may be said to branch off from the great thoroughfare of Southern travel. The cars on this road are kept running night and day, superintended by all the officers of the road, from the President down, and we doubt not at a heavy loss to the company. We were somewhat astonished to find the condition of the passenger trains Capt. Lucien McLaurin, maintaining amid the bustle and confusion of boxes, chairs, bureaus, negroes and stables, the same patient and courteous demeanor, which was characteristic of him in the "glorious times of peace." The public should remember individuals and corporations who stand by them in this emergency.—Wm. Carolinian.

RESTORED.—We learn that E. A. Vogler, Esq., our well known efficient County and Salt Commissioner, and lately appointed a B. A. Agent of the Q. M. Dept., has resigned the latter office, on account of the delicate state of his health, and his arduous duties in other respects, and will be relieved as soon as his successor is appointed.

Mr. Vogler has planned and conducted our system of County relief with a admirable skill, to which he has devoted his time, and in which he has taken the deepest interest. He will continue in his county office. He, however, finds it very difficult to procure supplies, and thinks he will not be able to procure wheat and flour hereafter, and will have to rely on procuring corn. He has managed to retain the title and impressed corn of this county by furnishing the government a like amount at convenient points on the railroad.

During the past month he distributed 12,385 pounds of flour, (over 62 barrels) 8,026 pounds of corn meal, besides a large quantity of salt, gratuitously among the needy people of the county.—Salem Press.

COUNTY COURT.

The January Term of this Court was held last week. The County Taxes for the current year (1865) were laid as follows:

Poll Tax:	
For the support of the Poor,	83 cents
" Lunatic Asylum,	10 "
" Jury,	20 "
" County Purposes,	20 "
" Soldiers' Families,	150 "

Property Tax.	
On every \$100 worth of property, ad valorem:	
For the support of the Poor,	21 cents.
" Lunatic Asylum,	2 "
" Jury,	1 "
" County Purposes,	16 "
" Soldiers' Families,	80 "

And the same proportion on all other subjects of taxation, including the undistilled paid directly to the Sheriff.

The Special Court was chosen as follows: S. W. Cole, Chairman; J. White and N. Knight. G. W. Little was elected County Trustee.

Finance Committee—S. W. Cole, M. W. Mask and John Broadwater.

W. A. Redfern was appointed agent to purchase supplies for soldiers' families.—Wadesboro' Argus.

GOLD.—There was a very sensible decline in the price of gold yesterday, and speculators, as a consequence, who had bought at the recent high figures, were quaking in the boots at the prospect of still lower rates.

The Charlestown Mercury of yesterday says: "The heavy tumble in gold during the last few days has excited no little remark. There seems to be a complete reaction from the panic which prevailed a fortnight ago in the specie market."

We heard of several considerable amounts of gold exchanged yesterday, and the demand for sterling exchange is now quite slack at \$85.—Arg. Con.

The heavy tumble here is in the other direction. Brokers rates are 50 and private parties ask 100, and sterling at any price are among the things that were.—Wm. Carolinian Jan. 19.

A SARCASTIC REBEL.—Of a batch of recruits sent to a New Hampshire regiment, over 75 deserted to the Confederates the first night after their arrival at camp. A few days afterwards a Confederate officer sent to a Yankee officer the following note: "Capt. B.—Please send over your colors. I am having splendid success in organizing the 1st New Hampshire regiment."

AT THE OLD CAPITAL PRISON.—The following North Carolinians were held as prisoners of war at the Old Capital prison, Washington: Capt. J. H. Norwood 47th; Capt. J. R. Roach 44th; Capt. J. W. Goslin 52d; Lieut. A. B. Hildard 44th; Lieut. R. W. Stedman 44th; Lieut. A. S. Webb, Adj. 44th; and Lieut. T. M. Carter, 44th.

A gentleman writing to us from Caldwell county, a few days since, says "Robt. Green, one of our best citizens, was shot by the Tories last Thursday, and his thigh broken." He was left lying in the road.—Char. Bulletin.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

SENATE.

FRIDAY, Jan. 20th, 1865.

Mr. Wiggins introduced a bill to allow fifteen magistrates in the county of Halifax which, under a suspension of the rules, passed its several readings.

Mr. Ellis presented a resolution to prevent sales of property, under executions where specie payment is demanded, and to authorize the making of certain contracts by soldiers wives.

The business on the calendar was then proceeded to and a substitute for the resolution in favor of abolishing provost guards was adopted.

Resolutions (introduced last session by Mr. Odum) protesting against the policy of emancipation for public services, with a substitute therefor, being on their second reading, Mr. Dick moved the further consideration of the subject be made the special order for Monday next at 12 m., in which the Senate concurred.

Resolutions (introduced last session in the Commons by Mr. Phillips) relative to the expressions by the Confederate Government being before the Senate Mr. Wright, after stating he did not deem the second and third resolutions germane, moved they be stricken out.

Mr. Lassiter spoke of the offensive and insulting manner in which imprisonment had been very recently carried on in Granville county—a manner insulting not only to the citizens of the county but even to the ladies, and declared that if some relief be not extended the people a degree of insubordination would arise that might lead to mischief. In illustration of these remarks Mr. Lassiter went on to say that when the order was issued in Granville for the citizens to surrender their stock the excitement was such that a crowd would have kindled a fire sufficient to sweep the officers from the county. In such a state of things it was time to speak out and let the government know that while willing to do their duty the people must be protected against offensive and insulting abuses of the law.

Mr. Wright said no one was more opposed to or would go further to put down any improper action by a government towards a people, but he had objected to the second and third of these resolutions as not being germane to the subject of the resolutions, which, he felt it was to call the attention of Congress to the improper manner of executing the imprisonment laws, in hopes of procuring relief. By the third resolution the whole course of the government was arraigned and if this and the preceding one were stricken out he believed the in a state of his constituents would be subserved by the adoption of the resolution. On his return to Cumberland from the last session he had found much excitement on the subject of imprisonment, a little of which arose from the fact that the people had not sufficiently understood the laws of Congress, but as new orders had lately been issued, fair prices were now received in place of the one-third formerly allowed.

Mr. Odum said he did not rise to defend the government but he believed the imprisonment laws were very good—couldn't be better. He favored, too, the striking out of the second and third resolutions and would present certain additional resolutions he had prepared on the subject. (Then reading resolutions to provide that any illegality in imprisonment should be punished by fine and imprisonment and that just compensation should be made for price, local valuation, &c.)

On motion of Mr. Arendell the further consideration was postponed till Tuesday next, the 24th, being made the special order for that day at 12 m. A message was received from the House transmitting the resignation of Neil McKay, Esq., late Principal Engineer, Clerk of the General Assembly, proposing to go into an election for trial of a fine and mentioning Messrs. Theo. H. Hill, W. A. Huske, and A. Phil as candidates therefor. The Senate concurring, proceeded to said election, but with no result, two ballots being had. On the first Mr. Huske received 54 votes, Mr. Hill 4; Mr. Davis 18, and Mr. Phil 17; on the second Mr. Huske received 56 votes, Mr. Hill 4, and Mr. Davis 32.

A resolution requesting the appraising State Commissioner to allow market value for articles impressed, in cases of appeal, passed under a suspension of the rules.

Pending the consideration of a communication from the Comptroller the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Speaker laid before the House the resignation of Neil McKay, Esq., as Principal Engineer, Clerk of the General Assembly, which on motion was sent to the Senate with a proposition to go into an election to fill the vacancy, and a list of the names, Messrs. Hill, Huske, and Phil.

The Senate concerning the House proceeded to said election, but with no result, neither candidate receiving a majority of the vote cast.

Mr. Hanes introduced the following Resolutions on the subject of a general Convention of the Confederate States:

WHEREAS, the present system of legislation by the Congress of the Confederate States by which the most oppressive and unconstitutional laws have been passed from time to time, by the votes of irresponsible representatives from the States of Missouri, Kentucky, and other States, some of whom have never seceded from the government of the United States, but have at this time their full quota in the ranks of our enemies, and who therefore have no constituents upon whom the laws passed by them can operate, and some of whom dare not even show themselves in the States which they profess to represent, is an outrage to which no free people ought to submit, and

WHEREAS, Article V, of the Constitution of the Confederate States provides that "upon the demand of any three States legally assembled in their several conventions, the Congress shall summon a convention of the Confederate States to take into consideration such amendments to the Constitution when the said demand is made; and should any of the proposed amendments to the Constitution be agreed on by the said Convention, calling by States, or by Conventions in two-thirds thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the general Convention, they shall thereafter form a part of this Constitution. But no State shall without its consent be deprived of its equal representation in the Senate." Therefore

Resolved, That the joint select committee on Confederate relations be and they are hereby authorized to call a bill forthwith, calling a convention of the people of this State, or submitting the question to them, so as to enable them to assemble in convention should a majority of themselves decide to do so—for the purpose of ascertaining the Constitution as to provide that hereafter the representatives of any State or States whose territory is in the hands of the enemy so that the Confederate laws cannot be enforced therein, shall not, during the continuance of such occupation on by the enemy, be permitted to vote upon any question of legislation, but shall have only such rights as are allowed to the delegates from the Territories of the Confederate States, and of considering such other amendments as the said three States shall concur in suggesting. Resolved, further, That State sovereignty being the principle on which North Carolina and the other States withdrew from the Federal Union, the States composing the Southern Confederacy are

sovereigns, and the Confederate government is only their agent, and subject to their control; and that the States in their sovereign capacity, in General Convention assembled, have a right to negotiate a peace with the government of the United States without consulting with the President of the Confederate States, but subject only to the subsequent ratification of the several States in their separate State Conventions."

In support of these resolutions Mr. Hanes argued at length (his remarks being unavoidably crowded out) and at the conclusion of his speech Mr. Phillips moved the resolutions be printed, but Mr. Person moving they be laid on the table, the House adjourned by yeas 53, nays 39, the vote being as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative are: Messrs. Als on, Amis, Austin, B. Star, Benbury, Bond of Gates, Boyd, Brown of Madison, Brown, of Mecklenburg, Bryan, Cahoy, Cobb, Conner, Crawford, of Rowan, Crawford of Wayne, Cunningham, Dargan, Davis of Halifax, Davis of Franklin, Duke, Edwin, Faison, Fayette, Gaskins, George, Ganey, Grier, Grier, Harrington, Harris, Harrison, Hassell, Haws, Joyner, Jenkins, Lane, Latham, Lewis, Little, Love, McAden, McCormick, McLean, Outerbridge, Patton, Peace, Person, Phil, Polk, Powell, Russ, Shepherd, Ship, Shober, Smith of Cabarrus, Smith of Duplin, Stancil and Wooten—yeas 53.

Those who voted in the negative are: Messrs. Allison, Ashworth, Banks, Bass, Blair, Bond of Bertie, Caldwell, Calver, Carson, of Alexander, Carter, Capps, Cowles, Craig, Hyatt, Fowle, Grissom, Hadley, Hanes, Henry, Holton, Horton of Wake, Horton of Wilkes, Jordan, Lowe, McGee, McMillan, Murphree, Patten, Smith, Phil, Potts, Rogers, Russell, Surp, Sumner, Smith of Johnston, Stiles, Wang, Wheeler, Young—yeas 39. A second vote for Engrossing Clerk having no result.

Mr. Smith of Johnston, introduced a bill to call a Convention of the people, which was read and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. [This bill, which states that "the present condition of the country demands that the sovereign people of this State should assemble in Convention to effect, if possible, an honorable termination of the present war," is in form essentially the same as the Convention Bill of 1860, and provides that an election shall be held on the 18th of February, 1865, the vote to be for "Convention" or "No Convention"; that if a majority of votes be cast for a Convention, said Convention to be held in Raleigh on the second Monday in March, 1865, and consist of one hundred and twenty delegates.]

The House shortly thereafter adjourned.

THE SITUATION.

There is nothing new from below, and the relative situation of the forces facing each other remains unchanged, since our issue of yesterday. We have made no movement, and the enemy seems content to watch us, from within his entrenchment.

We learn from good authority, that the number of gunboats now in the river amount to seventeen, and are quietly riding anchor in the rear of Fort Fisher. We had rumors of all kinds flying about the streets during the day, but our people are learning to treat such things at their true value, and fail to affect their demeanor or disposition. Should any new movement become necessary, our readers will be advised of it in due time.—Wilmington Carolinian, Jan. 19.

NEWS FROM FISHER BY FLAG OF TRUCE.—Major Venable carried a flag of truce within the enemy's lines on yesterday, and returned last night. The details are meagre, as the officer in charge could obtain very little information from the enemy. We are happy to learn, however, that Gen. Whiting and Col. Lamb, are both doing well.

The slaughter in the Fort was immense. The killed and wounded, we are informed, will reach five or six hundred.

A large number of letters were received, which will immediately be forwarded by our prompt and efficient Post Master, to their respective destinations. May God comfort the bereaved, who will never receive letters from loved and familiar hands.—Wm. Cur.

GREAT FRESHET.—The heavy rains of Monday night produced a great freshet in the streams in this section of country, resulting in much damage to farmers and others. Much bottom land has been washed away, to a ruinous extent. Nearly all the bridges in the country have been washed away, with mills, forges, &c.

The following gentlemen are among the principal losers in our immediate vicinity: John W. Quinn & Co., E. E. Chambers, J. R. Black, A. R. Homesley, D. F. Schlegel & Co., and countless many others; but our limited means of gathering information prevent us from giving further particulars.—Shelby Eagle.

The greatest freshet that has ever been known in the Pee Dee occurred last week, the river being at least three feet higher than ever remembered by the oldest inhabitant. We hear of great damage to the river plantations, in the washing of the lands, and the sweeping away of fencing, fiddler and on stocks, and the drowning of hogs and cattle. The bridge across the river at Cheraw was injured to some extent.—Wadesboro' Argus.

DEATH OF BENJAMIN WATKINS.—Our community, to many of whom the venerable and excellent gentleman, Benjamin Watkins, of Pittsylvania, Virginia, was well known, was saddened to learn, that he has been gathered to his fathers. He was eighty-nine years of age—he was ripe for the ethereal of Time which cutteth down both great and small. As a citizen, he was held in high esteem. He was enterprising, liberal and public spirited, taking great interest in advancing the public weal of his country and State. As a member of society, he was genial, affable, playful and full of the small sweet charities of life, which so endear one to the hearts of the pure and good.—Greensboro' Patriot.

DESERTER KILLED.—Joe Wright, a deserter from the 15th Regiment N. C. T., was killed in this county, on Friday morning last, by a detachment of the District Guard. He was found in a coal-mining ground, attempting to make his escape, was shot by the Guard. Five others were captured during the week, and sent to Greensboro' last Saturday.—Shelby Eagle.

EXECUTION OF JONES.—J. H. Jones, who killed William Stephenson, of this county, was executed on Friday, the 30th of December last, near Graham in Alamance county.—Greens. Pat.

DEATH BY BURNING.—A man by the name of Charles Overly, who lived a few miles South of this place was found dead and badly burned near the depot. It was said he had some money, perhaps a small quantity of gold, and it is conjectured that while in a state of intoxication he was robbed, and then thrown into the fire and burned to death. A coroner's inquest was held over his body; but the Jury could find no evidence against any person and no signs of his death being produced other than by the burning.

This is a fearful warning to all who are in the habit of imbibing too freely. Robbers, and thieves, and murderers, infest all parts of the land, and we fear, we have in our midst, our full share of such characters. These are times, when men entirely sober and wide-awake to their own preservation can scarcely pass unobserved.—Greens. Pat.

In the reign of James I, when a person was invited out to dinner he took his own knife with him, and on entering the house of his host, found a whetstone behind the door, on which to sharpen it.